

The Evangelist.

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HENRY M. FIELD, J. G. CRAIGHEAD, Editors.

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THE HIGH CHURCH IN SEARCH OF A SISTER.

Since Hannah More wrote her tale, so charming to all unmarried people, of "Colin in search of a wife," or Captain Marryat related the marvellous adventures of "Japhet in search of a father," there has not been a more interesting voyage of discovery than that of the High Church in search of a sister.

In England the High Church party have made their advances directly to the East. In reading of their efforts one can hardly keep his gravity. Can anything be more ludicrous than the picture of an English clergyman educated at Oxford, wandering all over the East to obtain the sacramental emblems from the hands of some ignorant and good-natured Greek priest?

Excitation accordingly there is. It is echoed hither across the Atlantic, and it is echoed back by voices from Episcopal Conventions and churchly organs, of diverse kinds. One would imagine that Mr. Denton was the day-star to herald the dawn of the new Episcopal millennium.

But alas! these jubinations were premature. This good news, it appears, was too good to be true. The Levant Herald tells a curious story which turns High Church wine into vinegar. It is to the effect that an abbot of a Servian monastery has been degraded for having administered the holy sacrament to a priest of the Anglican Church.

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WHOLE NO. 1866

ground of his being a priest of the Anglican Church. The Archbishop gave him as polite a refusal as possible, hinting that the local Protestant pastor would gratify his desires, if applied to. But this was not what he wanted, which was communion with the Greek Church, and this he was determined to have, and in quest of it, he again set out upon his travels.

Also! the dream of High Church unity turns out to be only the baseless fabric of a vision, vanishing into thin air. The work must all be done over again. It must be begun *de novo*. Another Denton will be in request, and another Servian abbot Japhet may find his father, but Anglicanism cannot gain recognition of her sister yet.

A NEW FRENCH HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES.

French writers of note have in many ways during the last four years testified their interest in the fortunes of our Republic. No English works in our favor have been produced which can be compared with the writing of Laboulaye and De Gasparin. And now we have, from the pen of an able professor in the Academy of Lausanne, a History of our Republic, from the establishment of the first colonies to the election of President Lincoln, which may well claim our attention, as it certainly deserves our grateful recognition.

The author was for a time the pastor of a French Evangelical church in the city of New York, and is perfectly familiar with the practical workings of our institutions, both civil and religious. While he was here he made careful preparations for a history, especially of the religious movements and tendencies of the country, which, by his subsequent studies, has expanded into these two goodly volumes.

The Preface by Laboulaye will attract attention, not only from the reputation of the author, but as a clear exhibition of the manifest superiority and advantage of republican institutions, as compared with the restrictions imposed by the European governments. This essay is in effect a protest against the exclusiveness of the French methods of government.

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has almost always lost ground by its own excesses. In America it creates institutions; with us it destroys them." In speaking of that country, we "can no longer speak of an infant people, whose institutions are good for some planters scattered in a desert; we shall perhaps end by comprehending that the Americans long ago solved the problems with which we are now in travail."

And it is one of the marked merits of these volumes, that they bring out the great ideas which have determined the character and fortunes of this country from the earliest colonization to the present times. The spirit of Puritanism, slowly working itself loose from the traditions and fetters of the past, has produced the religious and civil freedom in which this land now rejoices; and in the great issue, has led to that conflict between freedom and slavery, which formed the substance of our late war, whose final results were not known in Europe at the time that the concluding chapters of this work were written, but which were anticipated by him, as by Laboulaye, without any misgivings.

All that concerns the colonization of the country is narrated with fidelity and fulness; the different characters of the early colonies in New England, in the South, and in the Middle Colonies; and the formation of these traits is referred back to the European, and especially the English, struggles, in the midst of which our early emigrants were trained. The peculiar character of the New England polity in both Church and State is faithfully analyzed, its theocratic elements, its fusion of Church and State, its independent or congregational polity, and the means by which, from an internal necessity, it worked itself loose from those peculiarities which hampered its free growth.

After a condensed narrative of the War of the Revolution, our political history is traced down under the new Constitution to the time of the election of President Lincoln, without any bias in respect to our party divisions, excepting on the question of slavery and liberty. A full account in a distinct and able chapter is given of the history of the slave power, its growth, its conflicts, its arrogance and pride, and the vain compromises attempted for its adjustment. This is clearly and rightfully exhibited as the main question at the heart of our politics for the last forty years, until it culminated in the great Slaveholders' Rebellion.

For such an able presentation of our cause, for this defence of our country in opposition to the fears and prejudices of the European States, we owe the author a debt of gratitude. We hope that his work may here receive a cordial welcome. It ought to have this on the score of its candor and ability; it is doubly worthy of this, because it speaks to us words of counsel and good cheer, and because it is in vital sympathy with all that distinguishes and elevates us as a people, with those moral and religious ideas which can alone ensure our permanent prosperity.

Difference between C and V.—A single letter sometimes changes the whole meaning of a sentence. In the article of Rev. Mr. Cuyler in THE EVANGELIST a week or two since, in which he spoke of the writings of Rev. Frederick W. Robertson, he referred to his "previous volumes of sermons." This the printer made to read his "precious volumes of sermons," an endorsement not intended, for while our correspondent conceded their genius and beauty, he was careful to take exception to some of their theological views, which he regarded as very defective.

OUR CITY POOR.

The Annual Report of our city "Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor," reviewing its work during the year, finds cause for gratitude in the fact that there was less suffering from poverty and want during those four years, than during any other equal period of the Society's history. This was owing to the great stimulus which the war gave to new branches of industry, furnishing steady employment to all who were able and willing to work.

With these general remarks, the Report proceeds to notice the work of the Society for the past year. The aggregate of relief afforded was greater than in any previous year since 1862, owing to the many rendered dependent upon charity by the calamities of war. Of these a large proportion who were aided did not belong properly to the city's poor, consisting as they did of Southern refugees, who had been driven from their homes; families of soldiers who having enlisted elsewhere could not claim the city or county bounty; discharged, disabled soldiers and their families, and the widows and orphans of soldiers who had died or been killed in the service.

An important part of the Report is as usual devoted to sickness and diseases among the poor, which largely grow out of their poverty. The Report exposes again, as it has often before, the abominations of our tenement houses, and demands that purer air and more of it shall be allotted to their occupants; that accumulations of garbage and other materials generating malarial fever be regularly carried off; and that establishments which vitiate the atmosphere be removed beyond the city limits.

There is no time to become intelligent in these matters. It takes a forenoon to hear the most expeditious story; and then one does not know where he stands. I look out of my window, now as I write to you; the Winter is trying energetically to get up some sleighing for Christmas; but the snow seems to melt on the ground, or before it reaches it, and everything looks muddier than ever. And so the air is as full of projects as it is of flakes; but my confusion deepens to find things only growing more disagreeable than ever.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

[We commend heartily to our city pastors and churches, the following letter from Rev. Mr. Robinson of Brooklyn. It touches on matters of vital importance to the growth and prosperity of our Church in this vicinity. What he says of the number of calls for aid will find an answer in almost every city pastor's experience.—Eds. EVAS.]

Brooklyn, N. Y. Dec 22, 1865. Messrs. Editors:—There are two things which I want to speak about to you, and to my brethren at large, with all modesty, but with a strong desire to be heard, and the one leads the way to the other.

The people in Williamsburgh are just now making a decided effort to pay off the debt on the First Church, and put it on its feet. This is the congregation of which Rev. Jos. H. Robinson was pastor, formerly under the charge of Rev. Dr. McLane. Hence I happen to know its position as thoroughly as need be, to enable me to explain and commend the appeal it now makes to its neighbors.

For years they have been laboring under an incubus. In the twenty years of their existence they have never been even with the world. They have now on their property mortgages amounting to an aggregate of twelve thousand dollars. There is no better building, for their purposes, owned by any band of brethren within the limits of our Presbytery—neat, tasteful, and commodious. But Providence has seemed to be trying their patience from the day of its earliest erection. The steeple was once blown down; this cost them thousands of dollars. Debts have presented themselves whose existence no one suspected. They have labored at great disadvantage.

Now they have started to raise the amount needed to pay off that entire encumbrance. They have no pastor to plead their cause. They are doing wonders among themselves. They propose to raise six thousand dollars on the spot. For the remaining amount the Presbytery have, after three or four meetings of counsel and encouragement, recommended them to ask the churches in New York and Brooklyn. They have commissioned our friend and brother, Chaplain Roe, to seek this aid in their behalf. I know they are doing all they can, giving nobly, generously, self-denyingly. We are going to help them in our churches this side of the river. I make no hesitancy in saying, that unless this endeavor is aided in success, unless that debt is removed at once, the church will go out of existence and the building be sold.

What I want to say then, is just this: Will our brethren in New York help us help them? The Brooklyn Presbytery is not a strong body. We are not equal to this task alone. This is one thing of the two to which I alluded in the beginning of this letter. And I speak thus publicly of it, because I want to make it my basis for a sober question. Are we managing—we of the New School Presbytery in New York, our projects of Church development and extension in the wisest way, here at the centre?

The number of appeals that have come to me within the past three months, is unparalleled. Western churches, colleges for endowment, societies for contributions, missionaries for increased stipends, everything that the heart can conceive—these all are knocking at my study door. I frequently sit four or five hours, holding audience with incomers in turn. Yesterday, and day before yesterday, I had eight calls, from five men and three women, each on an errand that involved access to my congregation for pecuniary aid. One desired ten dollars for a mission enterprise, one a million dollars for evangelizing Africa by commerce. And there is nothing extraordinary in this experience. The stream of visitors to our community is unintermitting.

I know this meets a like history of every Pastor of a prominent church in New York and Brooklyn. We are thronged morning, noon, and night. The spirit of enterprise, fostered by the quick moving of business waters, seems to encourage every crippled concern of every name to think that he who steepleth in first will be healed of whatever disease he hath.

There is no time to become intelligent in these matters. It takes a forenoon to hear the most expeditious story; and then one does not know where he stands. I look out of my window, now as I write to you; the Winter is trying energetically to get up some sleighing for Christmas; but the snow seems to melt on the ground, or before it reaches it, and everything looks muddier than ever. And so the air is as full of projects as it is of flakes; but my confusion deepens to find things only growing more disagreeable than ever.

I am not petulant, nor tired. I can relieve all my trouble—by locking the door. I did one Wednesday, two weeks ago. The sexton counted twenty men and five women who came and tried to enter. Some of them were my own people, some were not.

churches. It is willing, too, as never before. It is touching to see how hurried business men bend their ears to us, their Pastors, to listen to our calls—Are we dealing fairly by their generosity? Is this deontological distribution of funds a wise way of extending the Church? It is an easy disposal of any man to send him off with names. But if he is a worthy man, and dies suddenly alone in a cheap hotel, of overweariness and discouragement, then it makes a bad recollection.

And further: Is it best to send ten thousand dollars to Iowa, and let Williamsburgh die? Why not set Williamsburgh on its feet, and then let Iowa go there, too, for help? Charity begins at home: is it not about time for it to begin? Who doubts that it was a grand point gained, to save noble old Spring-street from extinction? Is our policy just as it now stands; thus—let everybody come that will, with everything he pleases to bring, and get all he can? Meantime our feeble churches here in both cities, churches which might help us in five years, and return ten-fold, languish under debt, and perish through inaction.

What shall we do? That was not the object of this communication. I am not wise enough to say. But something tells me that we must either work through our organized committees, or discard them. What if a fund should be started; like that our Congregational brethren are gathering on Forefathers' Day; like that our Episcopal brethren have been gathering this long time; a fine large amount of money, to be disposed of with judgment among our feeble churches at home and away from home; making the condition of help to be need, and not distance or nearness.

CONGREGATIONALISM IN ENGLAND.

Connecticut Congregation is evidently a black sheep in the Congregational fold. It received some hard thrusts at the Boston Council, and Dr. Dexter, in his recent work on Congregationalism, voluminous enough to dwarf our Book of Discipline, indicates plainly enough his opinion in its disfavor. We have heard the assertion from his side of the house, most emphatically pronounced, that the Presbyterian system, with its securities for the right of appeal was tolerable, while Congregation was quite intolerable!

But a semi-Presbyterianism is pretty sure to be ever and anon insinuating itself in unexpected quarters. The Congregationalism of Owen, who complained that he was accounted a sectary because he pleaded "for Presbyterian government in churches," would be repudiated promptly, if it were not that his great name is not lightly to be parted with. He justly disliked and opposed that kind of Presbyterianism which would seek support in civil sanctions, but in his later years, when the hope of its alliance with the State was dispelled, his views seem to have been considerably modified.

We have been reminded of this in perusing a late number of the British Standard. Its editor, Dr. Campbell, is a leading English Independent, but he has sagacity and honesty enough to do justice to the Presbyterian system. He admits to his columns an article from one of his brethren, Dr. Ferguson, who says: We point to Convocation as an ecclesiastical Parliament, in which speaking can be followed by no practical action; and in what better position are we in our General Assembly of the Congregational Union? We have oral speech, in which speaker reiterates the sentiments of speaker to weariness and fatigue, and in which nothing is gained but the expression of individual opinion upon more or less important questions. We have written speech even to superfluity, and sometimes on points of vital moment, but on which no other action is taken beyond the simple resolution that the essays and papers thus read should be printed with the minutes of the session, and be inserted in the Year Book. If every moment of the session, so recently held in the city of Bristol, had been spent in earnest thought, speech, and prayer, in connection with the chairman's address, it would have been time saved; while the effect on pastors and people would have been inestimable.

Commenting upon this communication, the editor says:

Dr. Ferguson's article is to be ranked amongst the most striking signs of the times. . . . We ask for it a deliberate and a candid perusal from the ministers, the officers, and the leading men of the Congregational body. While some of its positions, we think, may be disputed—we ourselves dissent from them—its general views, spirit, and bearing are such as command our cordial concurrence. Let it not be said that it is Presbyterian in bias. Every thing in Presbyterianism is not wrong—nay, next to Congregationalism of the Owen stamp—not the turbulent democracy of a later period—Presbyterianism is the best form of ecclesiastical polity extant. Thoroughly worked, there is not a good point in Independency which may not be secured by it.

The service and rigid features of Scotch Presbyterianism two centuries ago did more to make men Independents than John Cotton's arguments, by which Thomas Goodwin, John Davenport, and others are said to have been convinced. Had a system like that which now characterizes the Free Church, or which prevails among us, been known in that day, it is doubtful whether English Independency would ever have existed. Even now the arguments of those who oppose it, and caricature it as intolerant, are drawn rather from the old arsenal of history than the facts and circumstances of the living present. We are satisfied with the rapid progress which Congregationalists are making—witness the last number of the Boston Review, so similar in its positions to those taken by Dr. Ferguson—in adapting their system to the necessities of the times. When they have reached the end professedly sought, to bring the benevolent machinery of the Church within its own control, they will have strengthened their system by what some of them have been accustomed to oppose and deride as a despotic Presbyterian claim.

THEY WILL BE DONE.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER. We see not, know not, all our way is light; with Thee alone is day. From out the torrent's troubled drift, Above the storm our prayer we lift, They will be done!

Our Correspondence.

BRITISH RULE IN INDIA.

My Dear Evangelist:—Please accept the enclosed \$3 12, postage for 1866, with our best thanks for your kind gift.

Those who rejoice in the British conquest of India as a means of evangelizing these millions of idolaters, should watch the results of this attempt to amalgamate Christianity and idolatry—Christian and heathen civilizations. I fear it is a sad fact, thus far, that the elevation of enlightened Hindus, so called, to posts of greater honor and emolument in the British Government, has resulted in larger gifts and stronger influence for the support of idolatry and superstition.

High hopes have been raised of large, enlightening results from our Government system of education in India. Our late Financial Secretary, Sir Charles Trevelyan, announced that the annual educational grant from Government had risen to \$622,210—equal to 6,222,100 rupees!

For the power of the Cross to be so developed in and by the Church as to make all science and legislation tributary to God's glory and man's salvation. High hopes have been raised of large, enlightening results from our Government system of education in India.

When are the 200,000,000 of India to be educated at this rate? In our own Presidency (Bombay) the facts, as far as brought out, are no better. Of the total Government grant, amounting to 439,342 rupees, more than a quarter, viz: 28 17 per cent. goes for "Direction and Inspection."

It has been the boast of our late Director that no grant has ever been made to a missionary school. But enough. There is much work to be done here if India is ever to be evangelized. Don't let the Church lose heart in the enterprise.

There is much work to be done here if India is ever to be evangelized. Don't let the Church lose heart in the enterprise. In the service of the Gospel, yours sincerely, R. G. WILSON.

CADIZ BLARNEY.

From a late Traveller in Ireland.

Who has not heard of the Blarney Stone and of the virtues of kissing it? To be at Cork and not visit it, would be a piece of pure barbarism. It is a classic amongst Irish antiquities. One very imaginative Celt has described it as the "Palladium of Ireland."

Blarney is four miles north of the "City of sweet bells," the city that lies so nobly on the liquid Lee. You may go by railway towards Dublin, and, dropped at the nearest point, take a short walk along the greenest of fields, or, eschewing railway, climb hill and meander through vale straightway by foot or car to the classic spot.

Castle Blarney was built about the year 1530, by one of the "potens sept" of MacCarthy Mores. It is a gray mass, whose chief feature is a huge square tower, exteriorly well preserved.

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DECEMBER.

The drifting clouds are dark and drear, The blossoms die of cold and fear.

O love, our sky is overcast, Our sweet hopes fall before the blast, The future darkens, dim and vast, And life is waning fast.

Yet sunshine brightens after rain, True hearts are never unconsoled— They fear not care, nor cloud, nor cold, And smile at growing old.

I was sitting one morning in the parlor of Mrs. Littlethink when that lady received a visit from her friend Mrs. Weakhead. I listened politely while the two ladies discussed domestic matters and servants, then the fashions and popular amusements.

"No, indeed!" was the reply. "I think the freedmen were better off before." "Of course they were," was the emphatic rejoinder, "and it would have been well for them if they had been left alone."

There was Mathilde, who washed for me the Winter I spent in New Orleans. She hired her time from her mistress—paying thirty dollars per month for the use of her own two hands. Her husband was owned by the captain of a Mississippi steamboat, and was employed as steward on the boat.

Mathilde occupied a little room, in a little court, in some obscure part of the city—I forget where now, though I remember finding my way there once, and being quite amused looking at the two black babies playing on the floor while their mother was ironing.

Mathilde and her children fell to the share of a plaster away out in the west of the State, and were ordered to prepare to go to their owner. I thought it was very shocking that this husband and wife should be legally divorced without their own seeking or consent; and when Mathilde sat down on the floor of my room, and sobbed and cried, as she told me of her sorrow; and said, in her meek, religious way, that she ought to be thankful that herself "and the child" were "wine in the same lot," I, for the first time, fully realized the great blessing of having a white skin.

At first there were scoldings, and boxings, and cuffings; and at last poor Lawrence had to be sent to the whipping-post. The Captain was reluctant to do this, and his wife shed tears over it; but they thought it necessary, and it was done.

The punishment effected no reform, however. Lawrence became worse and worse, until the Captain's patience was exhausted, and he sold his former favorite to a harder master. Lawrence was sent up the coast as a plantation hand, and we heard no more of him.

children about the kitchen. But she was fretful and discontented—always worrying about her husband, and fussing about her children. They were always in the way; and yet she could not bear that any one should touch them, and one day nearly went into a fit because one of her young masters whipped her little boy.

All this was told me by the lady in a complaining tone. She evidently thought Mathilde had been very kindly treated, and had acted quite an ungrateful part.

Mathilde with one of her children—the other had died—made good her escape from slavery and returned to New Orleans with a company of Banks' troops. She again went to her old trade of washing, without the burthen, however, of paying heavy wages for herself.

Lawrence soon found employment for which he was well paid, and became once more an industrious, upright servant. I still hear, occasionally, from my humble friends. They are doing well and living happily, and enjoying the great boon of owning themselves and their children.

Buffalo Presbytery held their stated meeting in Lafayette Street Church, Buffalo, Dec. 12th, 1865. Rev. Edwin S. Wright was elected Moderator. Twenty ministers and thirteen elders were present.

Rev. Walter Clarke, D. D., Rev. Richard M. Sanford, with elders Joseph H. Plumb and Stephen M. Clement, were elected commissioners to the next General Assembly.

The narrative of the state of religion, while it presents a very encouraging aspect, has nothing particularly calling for its publication.

Another touching feature of the meeting was the farewell remarks of one of our oldest elders, which called out the following action: Presbytery being advised that Dr. Moses Bristol, who for nearly forty years has held the office of Ruling Elder in the First Church in Buffalo and often represented that church in this body, is soon to remove beyond our bounds, would enter upon our records the following minute:

A Strange Present to a Lady.—The Pope has just sent a souvenir to the widow of the late General Lamoriciere. A captain of the Pontifical staff has brought the body of a holy martyr from the catacombs as a conculatory present to the bereaved widow. The remains are those of an unknown martyr, and the Pope has given him the name of Christopher, which was that of M. de Lamoriciere.

OBITUARIES.

DIED, in Chicago, on Monday, Nov. 20th, 1865, of inflammation of the brain, CHARLES FRANCIS, son of Ira and Lucretia Woodford, aged twelve years and six months.

He was born in Hector, Schuyler county, N. Y., May 23d, 1853, and had always enjoyed perfect health. He was sick only four days of the disease which he died, during which time not a murmur nor a word of complaint escaped his lips, but he exhibited patience and gentleness in the most eminent degree, to the last.

It is impossible to speak in adequate terms of his pure life and heavenly beauty. Seldom, if ever, has any one of twelve Summers possessed such remarkable traits as this lovely boy. He had been taught to pray from his early childhood, and he exhibited those rare qualities of soul that belong to maturer years rather than one of his age.

It is interesting to remember that he died on the anniversary of the birth of our Lord, and that he was buried in the same tomb as our Saviour, and that he was buried in the same tomb as our Saviour.

But he is gone! He has passed away from view. His life was like a Summer rose whose fragrance lingers long and sweet to bless and comfort his mourning friends.

Weep not for him, mother, Weep not for thy boy, He sleepeth in Jesus, 'Mid bright heavenly joys, Weep not though the clouds Grow over his breast, For immortal he reigns In the land of the blest.

Weep not for him, father, Though he was thy stay, And though in the silence He's crumbling to clay; For God is all-wise, His decrees are all just, Though our idols He breaks, And they turn into dust.

Weep not for him, sister, Though forth from thy sight His form hath departed, To Heaven's own light, Though his dear voice is hushed In the low, quiet grave, Yet it joineth above, 'Mid hosannas of praise.

Died, at Apalachin, Tioga county, N. Y., on Wednesday, 6th inst., Rev. D. A. ABBEY, aged 62 years. Rev. D. A. Abbey, son of David and Nancy Abbey, was born at Olive, Ulster county, N. Y., April 6th, 1813, where, with the exception of one winter attending the Academy and part of one season in the store of Gen. James S. Smith at Kingston, the first seventeen years of his life were spent in labor on the farm.

byterian church, and instructed her family more in accordance with puritanical ideas of consistency than are popular at the present day.

Seldom does a duty so painful devolve upon us as the announcement of the death of this estimable lady, for not only her immediate family and relatives, but also a large circle of friends, and indeed the whole community mourn her loss.

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But he is gone! He has passed away from view. His life was like a Summer rose whose fragrance lingers long and sweet to bless and comfort his mourning friends.

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God, the all-wise and most gracious sovereign of the universe, to take to himself Rev. John Gosman, D.D., a devoted friend of Rutgers College, on the occasion of the decease of this eminent servant of Christ:

Resolved, That we deeply feel our loss in the death of this eminent servant of God, and our fellow laborer in behalf of the College; and that we bow with submission to the Divine will, while we express our high appreciation of him as an accomplished scholar, eloquent preacher, wise counsellor, and Christian gentleman; that we gratefully record our sense of obligation for his valuable services to the College—not only rendered in counsel, but in patient and successful labor for its enlargement, performed even when the necessities of four-score years were pressing upon him; that we shall greatly miss his venerable form, his ever-courteous address, and his words of wisdom, from our annual meetings, which he failed not to attend, as long as strength remained to him; that with great joy we have heard of his triumphant departure, and that we shall sympathize with them, in this time of sore affliction.

Resolved, That the above action be published in the Christian Intelligencer, and in the papers of Ulster county and Hudson City; and that a copy be sent to the bereaved family, with the assurance of our deep sympathy with them, in this time of sore affliction.

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The Children at Home.

FOR THE EVANGELIST. MARIE'S MATCHES. BY MISS S. J. PRITCHARD.

On Mrs. Morse's burial day Mrs. Willard with Daisy and other of the shipwrecked passengers from the Blue Wave were on their way from the inhospitable coast of New Jersey to New York.

Daisy looked upon her fellow-travellers, and suddenly laughed aloud so merrily that Captain Clure asked "What is it?" "I was thinking how funny we shall all look to New York folks, when we get there. Just see! My mamma's bonnet looks as if some one had been digging gold with it in California, and I haven't any at all. I wonder what fish is wearing mine to-day. You all look as if you had been drowned; you haven't anything on that is fit to be seen. I am ashamed to have my pretty Blue Wave send home such looking people. I will tell you, mamma, what we look like, the Sand Fly Diggers."

"We will hide from mortal sight as soon as we can," said Mrs. Willard, protecting Daisy's head as well as she could, for December was asserting its right to be cold with power, and the only conveyance that had been found from the wild sea coast to the nearest railroad station was a long freight wagon, that certainly did all its duty that day.

Lucy's mother had been very unwilling to leave the coast. A vague hope she had, that her child might be washed on the shore, and it was only the most earnest entreaty on the part of others that induced her to turn away from the ever-tossing waves. Every bit of rock-wood, every fragment of sea-grass that the waters bore on their landward march might be something belonging to her child, and many times she ran back to examine some new roll of surf-wreck that came in. She had been so absorbed by her own grief that she had not noticed that Daisy was without a hat, until the words of the child aroused her. She drew out a little hood from beneath her shawl, Lucy's hood, that had become unfastened in the gale, and when the great waves swept her overboard, the poor mother made a frantic effort to catch her, and only the hood had been left in her hand. This hood the mother softly pressed to her lips, and then with an effort that to her was heroic, she said, "Take this, Mrs. Willard, for Daisy; Lucy will never need it any more."

It was the first unselfish act that the passengers had witnessed from the lady during their long voyage. She had seemed to care for none but herself and the two children. Mrs. Willard, with a sympathetic heart, tied Lucy's hood on Daisy, and Daisy, I know not why, but out of some sweet impulse of her nature, put her arms around the lady's neck and kissed her, then, looking frightened at her own act, she shrank back and was silent whilst the long wagon rolled on over hill and dale, over wide stretches of coast road, where the sea-line could just be seen foaming and fretting at its ancient foe, the land.

Joy sprang with its golden bell into every heart, when the driver announced that "the station was very near, and the passengers just in time to take the coming train."

Night was coming on; the long drive, in addition to cold and rain and hunger, had made the passengers impatient, but for the memory of their great salvation. New York was nearly won. The Hudson alone rolled its lordly waves between; the gale had passed, and the stars looked down to see what had been wrought on the bound earth since clouds had shut their eyes.

With a long shriek the steam whistle announced its arrival at Jersey City. It was midnight! just one night more and the New Year would be born.

Daisy started up at the sound of the whistle and looked about, lost for a minute, for she had slept and dreamed that she was in the life boat again, and that Lucy's hair tangled it so in the waves that it could not get to shore, and the shriek of the whistle had been Lucy's scream to her.

In a moment she was herself again, and watching the throng going to and fro in the station, suddenly she caught her mother's arm and whispered, "See, mamma! Who is it? Isn't it? Look!"

"Who? What do you see?" and the voice was filled with trembling. "There, mamma! Leaning against a post, all wrapped in a cloak. He is looking the other way now."

"The way was filled. Passengers were leaving the train, and with them went the little group so lately rescued from the Blue Wave out upon the platform. No sooner had Daisy's feet touched it than a spell was over them; they ran to the man wrapped in a cloak, who still leaned against the pillar, and the little hands caught the cloak in their grasp, and Daisy said, very softly, "Papa."

"You mistake, my child; I am not your father," replied the gentleman, gently removing the little hand from his clasp; but it would not stay away.

"Papa! don't you know me, don't you know your own Daisy? we've been almost drowned."

"Daisy! Daisy!" and the gentleman involuntarily thanked God ere he could speak out, "and your mother?"

"She's coming! There she is, looking for me. I ran away—mamma! mamma," cried Daisy, "it is Papa, here he is."

Before the sentence was finished, Mr. Willard and his wife had met. The passengers passed on, little heeding the great joy that dwelt so near them.

the coast. I was waiting for the train to leave. I feared you were lost." There was little time for words, and our little party were soon on the ferry boat. At the last moment the destination of Lucy's mother was learned, in order that the hood might be duly returned to her, and, with kindly farewells on the New York side, the late dwellers in the Blue Wave went each their own way.

Up the long streets, through the great silence of the deep night, rolled the carriage that conveyed Mr. Willard and his wife and child. Suddenly Daisy asked, "Where are you taking us—where do you live now?"

"I live at home." "Where?" questioned Mrs. Willard and Daisy. "At home, where I have been busy preparing for you many days."

Almost as he spoke the carriage stopped. It rolled away and left them standing on the steps.

"How funny it is to come home without any baggage," said Daisy, "nothing but our two selves; and you may be very thankful, Papa, that it is not daylight, for you would be ashamed to bring such looking people into your new house; and what a nice house it is—I can feel it, although I can't see it."

The key was found and Mr. Willard, who had left his house three hours before stricken with a deadly fever, re-entered it rejoicing. The midnight darkness was soon illuminated with gas and happiness.

Charlie, who had fallen asleep on a very damp pillow, in the belief that his poor mamma and sister Daisy had only a wave to rest their heads on, was awakened by a soft murmur and the gentle touch of his mother, and a fresh young voice put its note in at his ears, and Daisy's fingers found their old home amid his curls.

"Charlie! my darling boy!" said the murmur. Charlie started, opening his eyes (and with weeping) very widely, and was quite lost. "How stupid you are, Charlie! it's mother and I," cried Daisy.

"It is, you drowned, Papa said so, and he cried too." Gradually Charlie's self came back to him, and he was made happy by permission to dress and join in the midnight meal, for Mrs. Willard and Daisy had fasted long, but a distant clock struck two as the happy four arose from the table.

Full of joyous thanksgiving, they went to their rest, thankful for the narrow escape from death, and to be once more united. Lucy's mother was not forgotten in their prayers, nor the young sailor who had saved Daisy and who would be with them on the morrow. To-morrow will be the New Year! The New Year will open in Heaven to Blessie's mother. She who lies in the grave of charity will meet it on Celestial Heights. Is it permitted her to see now, in the little attic, close under the eaves, two little children fast asleep, and does she know that Blessie is there, sheltered by good angels and Marjorie's arms? To-morrow! It is almost here. It will be the New Year.

Foreign. Death of the King of Belgium.—The death of Leopold I., since July, 1831, the reigning sovereign of Belgium, to the throne of which he was called by election, after having declined that of Greece, will attract a share of attention on this side of the water, and more on the other. Son of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld, born in 1790, he entered the military service of Russia and was a general in 1808. Accompanying the allied sovereigns to England in 1814, he met and married the Princess Charlotte, daughter of George IV., and was made field-marshal, Duke of Kentland, member of the Privy Council, &c., and granted a pension of £50,000. The Princess dying in child-birth, he subsequently married the Princess Louise, daughter of Louis Philippe, and by the latter marriage had children, of whom the present Empress of Mexico is one. Had his first wife lived Leopold would have become Prince Consort, a position which his nephew obtained by marrying Queen Victoria. The King's private fortune was large, and his reputation for statesmanship, or diplomacy, considerable. The delicacy of his relations with France, the Emperor of which confided the fortune of his wife, and is supposed to enter into notions of territorial aggrandisement at the expense of Belgium, furnished the late King with opportunities for the exercise of his tact and discretion.

Death of Dr. Barth.—Many will regret to hear of the death of Dr. H. Barth, the celebrated African explorer. He died in Africa, the theatre of his labors, which he has done much towards rendering better known. He was born in Hamburg, in 1821, and enjoyed a good education. He then travelled in Sicily and Italy, and was engaged from 1845 to 1847 in visiting Algeria, Tunis, Tripoli, and other parts of Northern Africa. He finally left the coast and pushed into the outer limits of the unknown interior, whence he travelled through Egypt, Syria, Palestine, Asia Minor, and Greece, and published a valuable history of his travels in 1849. He started again the same year, with a party of scientific gentlemen, from Berlin, for Africa, and, leaving Marsabit in December, 1849, did not return until September, 1855. In this time they travelled some twelve thousand miles, and gained much valuable information, while Burton was pushing his inquiries from the east, and Dr. Livingstone from the South, through the Makaloto country. Dr. Barth's account of his second trip at once took rank with the best, most thorough, and useful itineraries in Africa.

After publishing this work, he organized another expedition, which he hoped would have greater results than the preceding. He has been heard from on several occasions since his departure, always writing in a hopeful strain and confident of success. The last tidings merely acquaints us with the fact of his death, without any of the particulars. Science has lost in this, and the great work to which he dedicated so much knowledge and energy has been put back an uncertain period. Still as each explorer pushes the circle of the unknown further and further back; as the Namagus land is mapped in one quarter and the great Lakes in another; as the source of the Nile has been found, and civilization penetrates eastward from Liberia, we may well be

glad that the labors of Barth, and Livingstone, and Burton, will not be lost, but that eventually the problems will be solved, for whose solution some of them have given even life.

Dr. Guthrie's resignation has been refused by the Free Presbytery; whilst retaining all his status as a minister of that congregation, together with all its rights and privileges, he is to be relieved of all its duties and responsibilities.

Skepticism in Italy.—The Florence correspondent of Eccelegical Christendom says: "I regret to have at last to announce that a large Society of Free-thinkers has been established in Italy. Milan is the headquarters of the body, but numerous affiliated associations have already been organized in various towns. Already, as at Siena, this new movement places itself alongside of the Gospel cause, and is thinning the ranks of the Evangelists. As the last new thing, it has a popularity, which I trust will be ephemeral. The main object of the members of this body is to refuse the offices of all ministers of religion at baptism, marriage, or death."

Strange Newspaper Schemes.—A new paper is about to appear in Paris under the title of La Nécrologiste. The subscribers are promised a paucy in the event of their decease. Pleasant indeed—at all events for their widows. A somewhat different inducement is held out to those who support the new medical started at Rome, La Giardiniera de Paris, in the shape of the Papal blessing. An appeal to the subscribers lately put forth reminds them that "in September last our issue received the blessing of his Holiness—it will be extended to all our present and future subscribers."

Victor Emmanuel and the Pope.—Victor Emmanuel, at the recent opening of the Italian Parliament, alluded to the negotiations which had been going on between the Pope and himself, which he thought so much exciting to the Italians. He told them that these negotiations had reached a point where the honor of the nation and the interests of the crown would be compromised, unless they were broken off. This is the royal declaration, that all attempts to bargain with Pius IX. have been abandoned. In connection with this, the King informed the members of a bill would be introduced for the suppression of the monastic orders, and the confiscation of the convent property, together with a regulation of the archbishops.

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The Evangelist.

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THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 28, 1865.

We have had many inquiries as to how long we shall continue the offer of a Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine for 20 new subscribers. We cannot say definitely, but only that it is open for the present. We shall hope to continue it long enough to enable many friends to finish the clubs which they have already begun.

THE ORIGIN OF THANKSGIVING.

Messrs. Editors:—In your issue of November 30th, under the title of "Origin of Thanksgiving," you have made a slight mistake. It is not surprising that one of you, coming from Central Pennsylvania, where they knew nothing of Thanksgiving until twenty years ago, should not have known better; but for a son of New England not to have known better is almost unpardonable.

If you refer to the work of Dr. Edwin Hall, "The Puritans and their Principles," page 171, you will see this statement: "In December of the first year, Edward Winslow wrote to a friend in England that they had built seven dwelling houses and four for the public use of the plantation,—they had planted twenty acres of Indian corn, and sowed six acres of barley and peas. And now, harvest being gathered, they kept the first New England Thanksgiving."

In Dr. Cheever's work, "The Journal of the Pilgrims," page 275, you will see the same thing, that the first Thanksgiving was held in the year 1621.

"The Governor is said by Mr. Winslow to have appointed the game-hunt after harvest, that so the Pilgrims might after a more special manner rejoice together, after they had gathered the fruit of their labors." This admirable annual New England custom of Thanksgiving dates back therefore to the first year of our forefathers' arrival.

Our correspondent should learn to distinguish between text and commentary. He has confounded Winslow on the one hand, with Hall and Cheever on the other. Winslow in the letter to which Hall and Cheever refer, says nothing about a "New England Thanksgiving." It does not appear from any statement in the letter to his "loving and old friend" in England, that anything like a day of religious worship, praise, and thanksgiving to God was appointed by the Governor in 1621. His words are as follows: "Our harvest being gotten in, our Governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after a more special manner rejoice together, after we had gathered the fruit of our labors; they found in one day killed as much fowls, as with a little help beside, served the Company almost a week, at which time amongst other recreations, we exercised our Armes, many of the Indians coming amongst us, and amongst the rest their greatest King Massasoit, with some thirty men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed fine Deer, which they brought to the Plantation and bestowed on our Governour, and upon the Captaine and others. And although it be not always so plentiful, as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so farre from want, that we often wish you partakers of our plenty."

This is the whole authority for the statement that the "annual New England custom of Thanksgiving dates back to the first year of our forefathers' arrival." All that can be made of it is, that the new comers had a merry-making after harvest, lasting three or four days, in which the Indians participated. Not a word is said about a "Proclamation," or a day of devout solemnities, or the initiating of any annual custom. Winslow's letter and Dr. Cheever's comment were before us when we prepared our former statement. We judged it a very insufficient basis on which to build the theory that the custom of annual Thanksgiving Days may be traced to the first year of the Plymouth Colony. No evidence of any custom of the kind is to be found—the appointment of a General Thanksgiving Day at a stated season of the year—until 1633, as stated in our issue of November 30. The previous occasions were local and special. It is not necessary to retract, or modify in the least, our previous statement.

A Good Answer.—A Missionary in Jamaica once questioned a little black boy on Matthew v., and asked "Who are the meek?" The boy answered, "Those who give soft answers to rough questions."

HOLIDAYS IN THE NORTHWEST.

It is now winter, not only in this northern latitude, but over the whole land. The phrase "as sure as Christmas," is just about to add one more to its long list of verifications. The shop windows are glowing with premonitory bloomings. Handbills on fences and neglected buildings utter their voices, and the newspapers are specially earnest to warn all people who have money in their purses that the annual season of spending it is at hand. Some—the great number I suppose—actually think that Christ was born on the 25th of December, and that we do something every year, in our way of celebrating that day, to make the fact of his birth emphatic, and possibly to honor him. Perhaps we do; though the chain which links cause and effect is not very evident in this case. I suppose, if we are going to observe a day, as commemorative of the Saviour's birth, it is in no wise essential that we have the exact day of the month, or year even; nor that we have the number of the year correctly. A day in July or March would do just about as well so far as I can see, were the Christian world only agreed upon it. But a great deal may be said about Christmas—Christ mas—Catholic, you see; and I shall not undertake to settle it. It is, at all events, a good time to exchange presents, and cultivate the social feelings; and there is abundant room, if one will, to remember and be grateful, for all our social mercies—and, indeed, all others—come of Jesus, born at Bethlehem; if not on the 25th of December, at some time, and about 1865 years ago; and two years earlier, or four years later, matters little.

The people of Bay City kept their Thanksgiving with much punctuality. Shops were shut, and the people assembled at the Presbyterian church and worshipped, the pastor preaching a sermon for better or worse. The Methodist church was also open, and I suppose as much good eating was done as is usual in other towns further south.

We have had a cold snap. Have you in New York? The mercury here went down to one degree below zero; and people said, "Did you ever see it so cold?" At Chicago the said mercury sunk to fifteen below. So you see that though we are two hundred miles nearer to the North pole, the "Garden City," as they used to delight to call themselves—because they scarcely had a garden in their limits—beats us to the tune of fourteen minor degrees. Well, Chicago is always a little ahead. But that accounts for our peach trees here.

Speaking of Chicago, I see that Rev. E. A. Pierce has resigned the care of Westminster, and is to be installed pastor of Calvary church; going from the extreme north to the extreme south of the city. Mr. Pierce has been very successful at Westminster, which under his administration has become quite a strong church. The Olivet church has got into the basement of their new edifice. Good for Olivet! That child has a parent in Michigan.

A Good Man Gone.—Mr. John C. Williams, of Rev. Dr. Patterson's church, Chicago, and an elder in it from its organization, in 1841-2, has just departed this life. He is the first of that eldership who has deceased in office. He was a good man and a just, and leaves the savor of a rare name with all who knew him. He was one of that class of men who without religion make a better impression than many do with it. He was of that mild, genial, equable make, which renders a man agreeable to all. The addition of religion imparted warmth and color to this natural temperament, and made it aggressive for good. His piety was warm and constant, and his hands were full of charities, of which perhaps few were knowing. His peculiar glow of mild and steady piety was felt through the whole body with which he was connected, and was an element in the strength of the Second Presbyterian church of Chicago, from the very beginning. In the world abroad, though he was a merchant in business for about twenty-five years, and had accumulated a handsome property, he was not very widely known; but the Church was his home, and there he felt. His place will not easily be filled among the office bearers, or in the household of faith below. That church can hardly seem like the same place now he is gone. He was but fifty-eight years of age. Well, it is good to know, that as fast as such vacate their places here they fill new ones there.

Ordination of a Missionary.—Rev. Henry Thomas Perry of Ashfield, Mass., a graduate of Williams College, and of Auburn Theological Seminary, was ordained at North Adams, Mass., Dec. 20th, as a Missionary to Central Turkey, to which field he is under appointment by the American Board. The examination, though brief, was well sustained and gave great satisfaction to those who are in favor of the thorough course of Theological instruction which is given at Auburn. Reading of the Scriptures and invocation were by Rev. Mr. Clark of Dalton. The sermon was by Rev. Mr. Eaton of the Presbyterian church in Palmyra, N. Y., from Col. i. 24. "And fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ." The discourse was peculiarly appropriate, and was listened to with much interest. The ordaining prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Todd of Pittsfield, and the right hand of Christian fellowship was given by Rev. Mr. Ballard (now supplying the pulpit of North Adams). The charge was by Dr. Hopkins, President of the American Board, who expressed his great satisfaction that Williams College was now to have another representative in the foreign field. The concluding prayer was by Rev. Dr. Strong of Pittsfield, and the benediction by the newly ordained Missionary. The singing of "Wake, isles of the sea," and other appropriate pieces, added much to the interest of the occasion.

REVIVAL INTELLIGENCE.

A work of grace specially noteworthy for its long, quiet, and unabated continuance, began in Rev. J. B. Herrick's church at Malone, N. Y., during the "Week of Prayer" in January, now nearly one year ago. A correspondent of the Congregationalist gives some interesting particulars: "No extra efforts have been made beyond the increased prayerfulness and general interest of a few members of the church. The pastor did all the preaching till about the first of October, since which time he has been paying the penalty of too great nervous tension, in a lingering typhoid fever. The work has been largely among the young, who, as soon as converted, began to work for Christ. Fifty-five (forty-five by profession and ten by letter) have been added to the church since the year began. Thirteen of these are heads of families, one sixty-nine years of age. This makes 247 added to the church in the twelve years of Mr. Herrick's ministry."

A most thorough work is in progress at Elmira in this State, a great multitude have professed hope, and many more are seeking. The seven pastors, of different denominations, work harmoniously, often in the same meeting, and Mr. Hammond, the evangelist, is assisting. Rev. T. K. Beecher writes to the Elmira Advertiser: "Mr. Hammond cannot get up a revival any more than the Cleveland convention could get up a party. They were smart men, they were in earnest, they acted shrewdly, they spent money, but they could not get up a party, nor any zeal. I think that I speak the profound conviction of every pastor in the city, when I confess myself weak, O how weak! in the matter of converting men from worldliness to holiness, from self to Christ. We toil all the night, and take nothing. Yet betimes, letting down the net, at our Father's bidding, we find it filling full. Such a time the present seems to be. We have not found a new Gospel, but the Gospel has found a new hearing—and we are glad."

The pastor of the church of the Other Branch in Washington, Missouri, in a note to The Presbyterianist says: "Whilst His Spirit is being poured out in other parts of the land, we rejoice in the fact that we have not been forgotten. A few Sabbaths ago I baptized three adults, the first fruits of my labors in this once well cultivated, but of late years sadly neglected field. On last Sabbath morning ten more made a profession of their faith in Christ, seven of whom I baptized. In the evening five more knocked for admittance into the fold of the Good Shepherd, three of whom I expect to baptize on next Sabbath. Thus has the Lord put our weak faith to shame."

In the church at Chester, Pennsylvania, in the Presbytery of Philadelphia, there is at present much religious interest. Several of the Methodist churches of this city are much revived. In the Second street church, for instance, one hundred persons have been converted, and fifty-two received to membership. The same is true of churches in Philadelphia; and in Delaware city they are enjoying "the best revival ever known there." In Genesee College, Lima, there is a continuous religious interest.

It is expected that the Congregational church of fifty members, at Riga, N. Y., will be more than doubled as the result of a present revival. There have been about forty hopeful conversions, says the Congregationalist, in the Rev. R. T. Learle's congregation, Thomaston, Ct., and thirty-five have joined the class in the Methodist church in the same place.

The religious interest at the National Capitol is not confined to the Fourth Presbyterian church, the locality of the work which we have before referred to. In the Foundry church (Methodist), Rev. Dr. Ryan pastor, meetings are held every night, and yet the new church is so crowded that many are unable to gain an entrance. "That church seems on fire," writes the Washington correspondent of the Boston Recorder. "One hundred and forty have been admitted within the last sixty days on probation, forty of these within the two past Sundays. The revival still continues in full force, and many more will doubtless join. To-morrow they will convene a sunrise prayer-meeting." In the Wesley chapel, there have been fifty-three admissions within two months, and God's Spirit still appears to be moving on many hearts.

A work of grace has begun at Centre church, Presbytery of Ohio. At the recent communion, nine persons were added to the church, seven on examination and two on certificate.

An interesting revival is in progress in the two Congregational churches of Milford, Ct.

Southern Aid Society.—This Society has completed its arrangements to resume active operations. The office of the Corresponding Secretary and General Agent, Rev. J. B. Waterbury, D.D., is located at 93 Wall street, second floor. The Society is in a position to render important assistance to the churches in the South, which are now so generally in a needy condition; and for this object, contributions are solicited. They may be sent to the Treasurer, Lucius Hopkins, E. q., 134 Pearl street.

The Pope's Bull against Masonry.—Bishop Elder of Tennessee has written a letter in defense of the Pope's recent bull against the Free Masons and other secret societies. He says that the Catholic Church has always opposed secret societies as founded upon dangerous principles, and that many of the Masonic lodges of Europe are infidel and blasphemous associations.

Church Members in Cincinnati.—The Western Advocate has been gathering the statistics of the membership in Evangelical churches in Cincinnati. The total is 14,871.

Temperance.—A series of one hundred temperance meetings has begun in Western Massachusetts, under the auspices of the State Temperance Alliance.

THE WORLD'S WEEK OF PRAYER.

The various branches of the Evangelical Alliance have again invited the people of God the world over to unite in prayer for the descent of the Holy Spirit, and the speedy conversion of the world to Christ. The following is published for general guidance: Sunday, Jan. 7.—Sermons on the duties of Christians to each other, as members of the body of Christ.

Monday, Jan. 8.—Acknowledgments of Divine mercies and confession of sin.

Tuesday, Jan. 9.—The Christian Church: That its testimony may be clearer, its faith stronger, and its devotedness, liberality, and zeal enlarged.

Wednesday, Jan. 10.—Nations: For their temporal and spiritual welfare; for kings, and all in authority; for the maintenance of peace; and for the increase of righteousness, which exalteth a nation.

Thursday, Jan. 11.—For Christian families, for servants, and for schools and colleges.

Friday, Jan. 12.—For Christian missions and ministers, and for all engaged in Christian work.

Saturday, Jan. 13.—For Christians in sorrow, in sickness, and in persecution; for the widow and the orphan.

Sunday, Jan. 14.—Sermons: The blessing to be expected from the manifested union of believers in all countries.

Presbyterian Historical Society.—The attention of our readers has been directed more than once to the important work and valuable services which this Society is rendering the Presbyterian Church, in gathering up and preserving the records of its early history in this country. Already it has secured a large and very valuable collection of books, pamphlets, portraits, and newspapers; and had the Society a suitable building, where donors would feel that their gifts were secure from fire, there is scarcely a doubt that its collection would be doubled or quadrupled by the contributions of those who possess historical materials of very great value.

The Executive Committee has recently published an earnest appeal to the members of the several branches of the Presbyterian Church for the means with which to erect a suitable fire proof building, and to form an endowment fund, the proceeds of which are to be applied to preparing full catalogues, publishing rare and valuable manuscripts, and meeting its current expenses. The Presbytery of Philadelphia (O. S.) at its late meeting, cordially commended the appeal to the members of its churches, "as well worthy an enlightened and generous liberality"; and the Pastoral Association, comprising ministers connected with our own Church, in Philadelphia, endorsed the matter as "one worthy of all praise," and commended it "to the sympathies and support of our churches." We would only add, that we hope that when the claims of this Society are presented in this city, there will be a number of our people who will consider it a privilege to aid this good cause.

Marshalltown, Iowa.—The 7th of December was a day of special interest in this place. In common with all the people of the land, we were happy to observe the day as a day of THANKSGIVING on the recommendation of our Chief Magistrate. Our places of business were mostly closed. In addition to this general interest, our new Presbyterian church was on that day dedicated to the worship of God. The erection of this edifice has been a year and a half in progress. When commenced it was supposed that \$5500 would complete it, but in consequence of losses and increased prices, it was found that nearer \$15,000 would be needed to finish and furnish the house of worship. The liberality and perseverance of the congregation is worthy of all praise. The members of the church are few in number, and limited in their pecuniary ability, but the members of the congregation not communicants have evinced as lively an interest in the work as the members of the church. Of many of them it may be said as was said of the centurion, "He loveth our nation and hath built us a synagogue." May their souls in that house be enriched and sanctified. They have erected for the worship of God as neat, tasteful, and commodious a church as I know of in Iowa. After a sermon and other services appropriate to the day, conducted by the pastors of the Presbyterian, Methodist, and Baptist churches, it was stated, on behalf of the trustees, that they had expended \$4000 more than they received, and an appeal was made to the congregation to come forward to their relief. As the result of this appeal \$3000 were raised at once, and the remaining \$1000 will doubtless soon be secured.

This is the congregation where Rev. L. E. Loess labored for the last three years of his life, and where he died on the 10th of July last, and this is the church edifice for the erection of which he so earnestly and successfully exerted himself. Let it be recorded as a tribute to his memory, that all here feel and acknowledge that to his persevering exertions do the people of this town owe one of their most beautiful and imposing structures, and our Presbyterian church and congregation this elegant temple for the worship of the most high God.

The Messiah.—The oratorio performance of "The Messiah" by the New York Harmonic Society, at the Cooper Institute on Christmas night, was greeted by a vast and highly gratified audience. The Society, we notice, is engaged in rehearsing "Samson," which they will produce in February. Under the baton of Mr. Ritter, the presidency of Mr. Berry, and with the skilful piano-forte assistance of Mr. Connolly, the Monday evening rehearsals at the Presbyterian chapel, corner of Fourth avenue and Twenty-second street, are among the most agreeable of musical reunions. We are glad to learn that the Society is more prosperous than it has been for years back.

RELIGIOUS CONVENTION AT AMSTERDAM.

A religious Convention was held in the Presbyterian church in this village, occupying Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, preceded by a special prayer-meeting for the Divine blessing, in the Reformed Dutch church, Fort Jackson, on Monday evening. The pastors of the Presbyterian, Reformed Dutch, and Congregational churches in this vicinity were invited, with elders and delegates.

Though several were provisionally prevented from attending, yet enough were present to occupy the entire time of the two days, embracing three sermons of two hours each. It was manifest from the beginning that the brethren had assembled under a deep sense of our spiritual wants as churches, and looking to God for his gracious presence. A peculiar solemnity rested upon all of our minds, and united prayer ascended for the Divine guidance and blessing.

The following were among the topics considered: 1. The promise of the Holy Spirit, the encouragement of the Church to religious effort. 2. A higher standard of piety necessary to meet the exigencies of the times. 3. The best method of bringing the Gospel to all classes of people. 4. Impunity and expectancy in prayer. 5. The necessity of a general revival of religion in all of our churches.

In the discussion of these subjects the meeting combined as large an amount of instruction, admonition, and solemn and earnest appeal, together with prayer and praise, as any one it has been our privilege to attend. Pastors were led to feel more deeply their deficiencies and the importance of increased fidelity, and the members of our churches were evidently awakened to more desire and more earnest prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The meeting increased in interest and solemnity from the beginning to the end, and the closing service was one which will not soon be forgotten by those who were present. The season has evidently left us in a more hopeful state than it found us, and we shall be disappointed if still more marked results do not follow. We think we cannot be mistaken in the indications of God's mercy to our churches, and our hope of a gracious revival is greatly strengthened.

The Convention adjourned to meet in Dr. Stewart's church, Johnstown, on Sunday and Monday, Jan. 1st and 2d, when we hope for a still clearer manifestation of the Divine presence.

The Federal Dead.—Such is the title of an octavo pamphlet of 168 pages just published by the United States Christian Commission, containing lists of many thousands of our noble soldiers who perished in the rebel prison pens of Libby, Belle Isle, Danville, and Camp Lawton, together with those interred at City Point, and in the field before Petersburg and Richmond. Not only are the names of the dead given, but the regiments and companies to which they belonged, so that in many instances surviving relatives will be able to identify the resting places of their friends. For this kind and humane work, thousands will be moved to new gratitude to the Christian Commission; and the country will continue to honor the memory of those gallant men who died for us, and for the preservation of our free institutions.

We trust the Commission will continue this work until it ascertains the facts, as far as possible, respecting the almost countless multitude of victims of the war, who have fallen in battle, or who were starved and murdered in Southern prisons. For this list, large and terrible as it is, comprises only Virginia, with a single exception. A complete record of the hundreds of thousands who have laid down their lives could not fail to impress all the people of the North with the costly sacrifices by which the integrity of the government was maintained, while we might hope that it would have a salutary effect upon those in the South who have filled these vast fields with the slain.

Copies of this pamphlet will be sent free to those concerned, by making application to Rev. E. P. Smith, Secretary of the U. S. Christian Commission, N. 13 Bank street, Philadelphia.

Consolidation.—The American Freedmen's Aid Commission and the American Union Commission have been consolidated in one association. Bishop Simpson is President, Rev. J. P. Thompson, D.D., Vice-President, and J. R. Shepherd and Mr. Abbott are Secretaries.

Bradbury's Pianos.—One of the very best presents for Christmas or New Year's, though to be sure one of the most costly, is a Grand Piano. Of these, New York produces, we suppose, the finest in the world. Very great progress has been made in the manufacture of these instruments within a few years. Perhaps nobody has made more rapid improvement than our friend Mr. Bradbury. He has recently finished a Grand Square Piano ever built; and though we are not connoisseurs in such matters, we must confess our admiration for its rich roundness, mellowness, and depth of tone. It is not our purpose to vaunt its superiority over any other particular build of pianos, but merely to note its own excellence, with a feeling of gratification that the taste of our citizens is so refined as to create a demand for such instruments. This magnificent instrument possesses not one harsh, jarring, or "wooden" note, either in its highest or lowest registers; it sinks its melodious tones to the softness of an Eolian harp, or in the wildest forte passages pours forth a flood of richest harmony. To us, it seemed as if this were about the ideal of a Pianoforte. At any rate, we do not expect to hear in the next five years anything which comes nearer to perfection.

The Episcopal Column conducted by Dr. Huntington in the Boston Traveller, has completed its year, and is discontinued. The last issue contained a suggestive paragraph, especially as coming from one of a denomination notoriously farthest from the devoutly to-be-wished-for consummation suggested:

"If all the Christians of our land were in an united church, and all the ministers of the various denominations were its ministers, we should then have ministers enough already for all the portions of our land which many are now so destitute, and we should have scores, perhaps hundreds, left for the heathen. If all the money which is paid by the various denominations in the support of their domestic clergy and pecuniary institutions were collected into one sum, there would be enough for the liberal support of all those ministers of that united church, and thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands of dollars left for the heathen. If all the time and talent and personal efforts which are expended by the members of the various denominations for objects solely sectarian were applied directly to the improvement of society, and the moral reformation of the careless and sinful, there would be glorious results; how glorious, God only can reveal."

The able discussion between Drs. Huntington and Sturtevant, which grew out of the latter's National Council Sermon, and which has waxed and waned in the columns of the Traveller since early Summer, may have contributed to this hopeful state of mind.

Dr. Schaaf's Observations.—On Sabbath evening last, at the Madison square church, the Rev. Dr. Schaaf gave an instructive account of his recent observations in Germany and adjacent countries. In the course of his remarks he referred to the improving position of the Germans relative to Sabbath observance, and added his testimony to that before given, that the aristocratic classes on the Continent, guided by the London Times, were mostly on the side of the rebellion, while the mass of the intelligent people sympathized with the North.

Congregational Collection for Building Churches.—The Council at Boston voted to raise \$200,000 for building churches, especially in the West and South. The collection was to be taken on the Sunday before the 23d of December, the anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims. It was accordingly taken two weeks ago, and so far as reported, was an excellent beginning. The last Congregationalist reports \$60,536 as the result of this collection in 236 of its 3,000 churches. Mr. Beecher's church leads the van, with the large sum of \$10,300; Dr. Thompson's Tabernacle comes next with \$4,028; Dr. Budington next, \$3,380; Dr. Storrs, \$2,000, the same as Boston Old South; and the Jersey City church gives \$1,380, a liberality which extorts from our Boston contemporary the acknowledgment that "the churches in New York, Brooklyn, and immediate vicinity have done nobly, rolling up the grand sum of more than \$23,000." It ought to be recollected in judging of this collection that a still larger one, \$50,000 in the aggregate, is to be called for for the Home Mission work.

The Anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims was celebrated on the 23d, with the usual dinner and speeches, by the New England Society of this city. In Boston the commemoration was chiefly military, and quite grand. The battle flags of Massachusetts regiments were transferred to the State and deposited in the capitol. There were about 3,000 veteran officers and men in the marching column, representing sixty regiments and battles, and displaying some 250 battle-torn flags. All along the route of the procession these veterans and their banners were greeted in the most enthusiastic manner. After prayer by Rev. Dr. Lathrop, Maj. Gen. Conch, on behalf of the volunteers presented the flags to the keeping of the Commonwealth, and Governor Andrew responded eloquently.

The New Testament, printed in relieved letters, has been procured by the New York Young Men's Christian Association, and is open for the use of the blind at their rooms, 161 Fifth Avenue. The Association will keep their Room open on New Year's day. Young men who are strangers in the city and at loss how to spend this leisure day, will find at the Room a ready welcome and a cheerful resort.

Acceptance.—The Rev. William Speer has accepted the office of Secretary of the (O. S.) Presbyterian Board of Education.

Ministers and Churches.—Rev. Henry M. Bacon having taken charge of the Westminster Presbyterian church, Toledo, Ohio, correspondents will notice his change of address.

Green Bay, Wis.—The Presbyterian church of this place have recently called Rev. Mr. Killen of Michigan, as a supply, and he is expected to begin his labors immediately.

Rev. F. M. Wadsett, late chaplain of the First New York Mounted Rifles, has gone to Marysville, East Tenn., to spend several months preaching in Blount county.

Rev. J. W. E. Kar, now connected with the "Other Branch," it is understood will accept the call of the Logan Square Church, Philadelphia, the only vacant church in our connection, says the American Presbyterian, within the bounds of that city.

Union.—The Rev. T. M. Chesnut, of the Old School branch, by invitation, is supplying both branches of the Presbyterian church at Felicity, Ohio, each congregation retaining its former ecclesiastical connection. Thus far they are working together quite harmoniously.—Presbyter.

Coldwater, Mich.—Rev. G. L. Foster, who had been our pastor for about three years, left us for the good old town of Bethel, Conn., about the 1st of October last. Since then, we have been casting about for a minister, and have finally united upon the Rev. W. C. Porter, of Naperville, Illinois, for the coming year. He commenced his ministry with us on the first Sabbath of the present month. Last evening we had a fine Sabbath school concert at our church. The house was filled with the children of the school, their parents and friends. The singing was excellent. The infant class repeated the Lord's Prayer in concert, and in fine style. Able addresses were also delivered.

FOR THE EVANGELIST.

THE LORD OUR LIGHT.

In the last still hours of darkness,
The night struck her sable tent,
Troops of stars along the heavens
In the haunted silence went.

GOING FORTH WEeping.

Look yonder at that little group on the
Grecian shores of ancient Miletus,
And see how at the words of that saintly man,
Who stands among them, the tears are

ble to humanity, intensifies, while it
purifies, the best affections of our nature.
And so, did I wish to illustrate, and by
examples enforce, generous friendships

City Religious Press.

The Methodist has a letter from Rev. Dr.
Newman which gives the proceedings
between himself, acting for the Church
North, and Rev. Dr. J. C. Keener, President

"enforce the guarantee of a republican
form of government." The third section
of this formidable bill annuls in all the
States "all oligarchical privileges, and

These acts and amendments, if adopted,
are to be carried into effect by "provisional
governors" having the rank of brigadier-generals,
to whose hands the whole government of the Southern States

The Intelligencer calls attention to a
subject already briefly alluded to in this
paper, the defective Marriage Laws of the
State, whereby ministers are exposed to
be imposed upon by unscrupulous candidates

So too in reference to the record of
marriages. In this State the officiating
minister is directed to send a monthly
list of his marriages to the County Clerk,

Important law-suits, involving heavy
sums, and Government pensions, often
depend on legal proof of marriage. It
has been stated on good authority that

In conclusion, the following outline of
a law is suggested: Let it be obligatory
on all parties desiring marriage to procure
a license from a magistrate, on payment

as wills, mortgages, and deeds are now
filed, and a copy of which they might be
allowed to have at any time on application.

Some such law seems to be necessary.
The parties themselves would then be
compelled to take all the responsibility
of their marriage on their own shoulders,

During the Fall my labors and prayers
were in reference to the sanctification of
the Church, and the conversion of sinners.
I desired that we might be fully prepared

My Dear Friend:—During our last interview,
the subject of revivals was introduced.
You were then oppressed by a view of the
obstacles in the way of a revival, and you
expressed a desire to talk with me upon that

Realizing the folly of extra meetings,
without some special call for them, and knowing
the conservatism of sessions in reference
to such appointments, I cried to God for help.

Now, my dear friend, this week of prayer
is coming again. You and I, and all our
pastors have no trouble about its appointment.
We have to make the heart-felt purpose

Methodist Church Items.—In the Haines-st.
church (Germantown, Pa.), after session on
Thanksgiving Day, \$418 were collected for

Bishop Thomson has been asked by the
Methodists of St. Louis to fix his residence
there. He is now on his way to New Orleans

The local preachers number 8,493, an
increase of 288. The benevolent contributions
show a large advance in every department,
in the aggregate considerably more

WONONGAGA PRESBYTERY OF DANCING.

The Committee appointed to prepare a
minutes on the subject of dancing, present
the following:

This Presbytery desires to remonstrate
with those persons within our bounds who
engage in or justify the practice of dancing.
The Church is a fold into which the wolves,

Dancing has been condemned by the highest
judiciary of our Church. In 1818 the General
Assembly linked it with theatre-going,
and declared it to be in "all its stages a

It is useless to argue this question. If
the heart is opposed to these views it needs
enlightenment. It needs more of the power
and grace of God to bring it into living

If the direct and positive objections to dancing
be still inquired for, let it be said: Dancing
is an amusement exciting to the passions.
"The whirl of the giddy dance," indicates

An appeal to the Scripture in justification
of dancing is an absurdity. It says too
much on the other side. And no reliance
is made to all the passages that speak of

Holding these views, this Presbytery
would earnestly enjoin upon the ministers
within our bounds to enlighten the people
of their several charges upon the sin and

Dr. Pomroy of Portland is delivering
various papers very interesting and valuable
lectures on the Turkish Empire, or the
Lands of the Bible.

Hon. Anson Burlingame, Minister to
China, has received instructions from the
State Department, and will soon return to
his mission, with enlarged powers to procure

Religious Reading.

LITTLE THINGS IN THE RELIGIOUS LIFE.

Did a holy life consist of one or two
noble deeds—some signal specimens of
doing, or enduring, or suffering—we might
account for the failure, and reckon it small

IVING.

In urging persons to the practice of
systematic benevolence, this response is
often made: "Well, I am in debt, and if
I give I only give away another man's

NATURAL AFFECTIONS IN THE SOIL OF PURE HEARTS.

Duty to Christ may require man to
leave father and mother, wife and children,
and to act, to use our Lord's strong
figure, sometimes as if he hated them;

The Examiner comments adversely on
the shower of propositions to amend the
Constitution with which Congress opened.
Now that the amendment abolishing

We have carefully examined the various
amendments suggested by Mr. Sumner
and others, and have failed to discover
any advantage to be gained by their

The Farmer's Department.

DEW WALKS FOR WINTER.—We should be remiss in our duty were we to neglect, at this season of the year, to repeat our counsel as to the great comfort and convenience which dry walks insure about dwellings, barns, and outhouses generally in winter and early spring.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY.—The Massachusetts Board of Agriculture discussed this important subject at a recent meeting at Worcester. Matthew Smith of Middlefield was first catechized, and was followed by the venerable ex-Gov. Lincoln, John Smith of Sunderland, P. Stedman of Chicopee, N. S. Hubbard of Brimfield, and others.

ORCHARD CATERPILLAR.—Owlets of orchards who remember many of the large, webby nests which disfigured the trees last summer, should also remember that those which were not destroyed, spun themselves into a cocoon and subsequently came out into a brown miller.

THE CARE OF HOUSE PLANTS.—The change from the open air to quarters within the house is often fatal to the health of plants, and although the owner gives them, as he thinks, every care, their foliage takes on a sickly look or droops.

AGRAFFE BRIDGE.—Plants with or without the Agraaffe Bridge, which we have constantly used for the past twelve years. Warehouses: 652 Broadway, New York.

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NEW HYMN & TUNE BOOK. SONGS FOR THE SANCTUARY. COMPILED BY REV. CHARLES S. ROBINSON, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, New York.

This is an octavo volume of 480 pages, containing 1192 Hymns and Hymns selected from the Psalter, 377 Metrical Lyrics, with 1200 of Subjects, Music, First Lines and Texts, complete. It is accompanied also by a Hymn Book, containing the hymns without the tunes.

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THE MORRIS Fire & Inland Insurance Co., NO. 31 PINE STREET. NEW YORK, JULY 1st, 1865. Authorized Capital, \$5,000,000. CASH CAPITAL PAID IN, AND SURPLUS, \$803,137.

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Annual Dividends, Forty Per Cent. Life Insurance is particularly obligatory upon Clergymen who, with a limited salary and the costliest economy, are generally only able to maintain themselves respectably, with scarce a thought or possibility of providing a future competency for their families.

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HOLIDAY GEM, A LITTLE BOOK CONTAINING Calendar for 1866. Post-office Regulations, and How to Send Money Safe. A Doctor's Experience in Cholera in 1849, '55, and '65, and Receipts for Cure.

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New Publications.

ELEMENTS OF POLITICAL ECONOMY. Under this title Prof. Perry of Williams College, gives us a volume which ought to command public attention. Although designed, we presume, as a college text book, it is well adapted to be useful on a wider scale. The subject is one not merely of scientific interest, but of vast practical importance. The writer exposes mistaken views of mercantile and national policy, in which the whole country is concerned. The work shows not a little of patient investigation, as well as of independent and original thought. Prof. Perry has sifted the systems of his predecessors, and in full view of their merits or demerits, he has carefully constructed his own. His distinctions are repeatedly exposed in a paragraph errors which have misled nations into a false policy. He sets aside as irrelevant some questions, and rejects some positions, which have hitherto introduced confusion into the science. The value of anything, he holds, is just its purchasing power, or its equivalent for service rendered. He criticizes severely what he denounces the credit money system, and exposes what he regards as the false assumptions of the Protectionist theory. He differs repeatedly from some of his predecessors in this field, but he is careful to give his reasons fairly. If we were to go into an argument on the general subject of Political Economy, we should probably take exception to some of his views, but that is a small matter compared with the great advantage of getting people to read about and think about such questions, far to present most people lack and vote without having any settled principles at all. The style is generally clear and forcible, sometimes elegant, but we regret to see here and there expressions which are needlessly crude, while the repetition of his statements of the same facts, in different chapters, is carried to an extent which is open to criticism, though in a text book it may appear necessary to the full presentation of the argument. Published by Charles Scribner & Co.

OUR ARTIST IN CUBA is the title of a series of sketches recently issued by Mr. George W. Carleton, whereof he is not only publisher, but author as well. They are sketches not with the pen but with the pencil. The public will be equally surprised and delighted at the novel talent they display. They are fifty in number, and hit off to perfection all the most prominent objects that arrest the eye of the stranger, who for the first time sets foot in Havana—Spanish men and women, whether at home, in church or theatre, or riding in their volantes; priests, nuns, and beggars; horses and donkeys, and all the peculiarities of life in the tropics. The sketches are exceedingly clever, and give us a better idea of Havana than many elaborate books of description. Since "Our Artist in Cuba" has proved such a success (for it has already passed through half a dozen editions) we hope "our artist" will take other countries in the range of his travel; and whenever he takes pencil in hand, may be there to see.

We find scant space at our command to notice some of the issues of the press, that come forward at this late hour, bespeaking the patronage of the gift season. Mr. M. W. Dodd publishes another book by the author of "The Schonberg-Cotta Family." It is entitled "Winnifred Cottam and the World she Lived In," and is brought out in a style similar to that of the first and most popular work of the author. This book has not the autobiographical plan of some of its predecessors, but it is marked by the same transparent simplicity of thought and language, and the same vein of elevated and pious sentiment. In a "card" prefixed, the author now known to be an English lady, signifies to her American readers that the editions of her works published in this country by Mr. Dodd alone have her sanction.

A. D. F. Randolph publishes at a reduced price a new edition of "Life Lessons in the School of Christian Duty," by Rev. Dr. Gillett, the author of "The Life and Times of John Huss." We need not repeat the commendation bestowed on the first edition, but we may say that our judgment then expressed has been approved by the press generally. It is just the book to put into the hands of a youth entering upon the active scenes of life. Mr. Randolph also publishes "The Smiten Household," a work well adapted to minister comfort to the afflicted. It embodies Dr. Prime's "Thoughts on the Death of Little Children"; "The Death of a Wife," by Dr. Sprague; "The Death of a Husband," by Dr. Bethune; "The Death of a Friend," by Dr. C. M. Butler, while each of these portions of the work is accompanied by select pieces of poetry appropriate and beautiful.

"The Seven Great Hymns of the Medival Church" is also issued by Mr. Randolph, and in exquisite style, to match Prime's "O Mother Dear, Jerusalem." The Latin original and English version are both given, together with explanatory notes. The poems are "The Celestial Country," "Die Irm," "Vaxilla Mater," "Veni Sancte Spiritus," "Stabat Regina," and "The Alleluia Sequence." Of the "Die Irm" several different versions are given. To say nothing of the others, "The Celestial Country" contains stanzas of great beauty.

The Sunday School Union add to their list several new books. "Janet's Bun and other Stories for Girls," is well calculated to fascinate young readers. Some of the stories, as "A Tale of the Spring Tide," display an ingenious fancy. "Charlie But, and other Stories for Boys," is a worthy companion for it, all the stories being short

and accompanied by a fitting moral. "Hope for the Fallen" is a narrative, tracing in the form of autobiography, the recovery to the paths of Christian peace of a "fallen" father, and abounds in scenes of pathos. "Dolly; or, the Unsafe Guide," shows the dangers to which youth are exposed in following their own passions and tastes, while it points to the true light and guide of the orrings. JAMES S. CLAXTON of Philadelphia has just published *New York Ned*, the well told history of a poor, homeless orphan boy, who preserves his wits and morals in trying circumstances, finds friends among the poor, is sent to an asylum, and at last is adopted by a rich, benevolent gentleman; who sends him to college, where he becomes a Christian. As the book closes he is starting for Europe with his benefactor, preparatory to studying for the ministry. Also, *Raphael the Blind Boy*, translated from the German, a pretty and simple story, telling of pious poverty, and God's help coming in the extremity of want.

The *London Quarterly Review* for October (reprint by L. Scott & Co.) presents the following list of articles: Cathedrals of England; The Mariner's Compass; The Resources, Condition, and Prospects of Italy; The Poetry of Præd and Lord Houghton; Blind People; Field Sports of the Ancient Greeks and Romans; The Gallican Church; The Russians in Central Asia. The view taken of the condition of Italy is on the whole a hopeful one. Yet we must not be too sanguine of the future. Education, indeed, has been widely extending, but only a short time since, sixteen out of the twenty-two millions of the population of Italy could neither read nor write. The annual deficit in Italian revenue is also an unpleasant feature of its condition. This can be obviated only by a reduction of the vast standing army; and this popular feeling forbids, anticipating a war with Austria for the possession of Venice. Still the resources of the country only need to be developed to give the Italian Kingdom a prominent place among the nations of Europe.

The closing article on the Russians in Central Asia sets forth the insidious but steady encroachments of Russia, and indicates the grounds of apprehension for the secure possession of India by England. It is evident that the further progress of Russia in Asia will be watched with a jealous eye. We take this occasion to speak again of the enterprise of the publishers, in these reprints, which bring the *London Quarterly*, the *Edinburgh*, the *North British*, and the *Westminster*, as well as *Blackwood's Magazine*, within the reach of many to whom the English editions would be quite inaccessible. These publications contain some of the ablest productions of the best English writers, and are indispensable to a thorough acquaintance with the political and literary interests of the day. Presenting as they do the varied phases of opinion of English parties in Church and State, they enable the intelligent reader to form his own conclusions in view of the facts as seen from diverse standpoints. We much regret that so able a publication as the *British Quarterly* should not be added to the list, and thus enable subscribers to take advantage of the reduced price which the publishers make to those who subscribe for four reviews. The obnoxious character of the *Westminster*, as the organ of English skepticism, must preclude its circulation in many quarters, and the substitution of the *British Quarterly* in place of it, would be most acceptable to all who value the interests of Religion joined with Learning.

INTERESTING DISCOVERY. The last number of the *Living Age* states from the *Reader* a fact of no little literary interest. "The *Literarisches Centralblatt*, No. 43, reviews Dr. Shirley's Catalogue of the original works of John Wycliff, in which the reviewer calls the attention to a codex, said to be in the autograph of Huss, containing five unpublished philosophical works of Wycliff, written in Latin, not noticed by that gentleman, which is preserved in the Royal Library at Stockholm.

The number of the *Living Age* from which we make the above extract, contains among other articles, one from the *London Quarterly* on *Palgrave's Journey through Arabia*; another on the failure of the *Atlantic Telegraph*, by Henry Rogers, from *Macmillan's Magazine*, and a very kindly notice of Porter's Land of Bashan, from the *Saturday Review*.

Every reader of the *Living Age* will be gratified at the enterprise of the publishers, who propose to enlarge it after the first of January, although the new series will not commence till April, 1866. The conductors manifest good taste and discrimination in their selections from foreign periodicals, in introducing nothing offensive to morals and religion. The preference is given, in accordance with the title of the work, to articles of present and living interest, although the able papers of the foreign quarterlies are not overlooked.

Horace Waters has issued a piece of music which should have been noticed last week, but perhaps the music will be better appreciated after than before Christmas. It is entitled "Santa Claus," and very appropriately dedicated to "all the little folks." It is written and composed by Rev. A. A. Grayley. Mr. Waters also issues "Come to the Window, Love," "Do they Love me still as ever?" and "The Nation's Jubilee," music by A. B. Clark.

Princeton Seminary. The Catalogue of Princeton Theological Seminary gives the following summary: Resident Graduates, 4; Senior class, 56; Middle, 56; Junior, 42; whole number enrolled, 158; in actual attendance, 150.

Missionary Intelligence.

A professor of the University of Berlin has recently published the result of his researches as to the population of the earth, according to which Europe contains 272 millions, Asia, 720; Africa, 85; America, 200; and Polynesia, two millions; making a grand total of 1283 millions of inhabitants. As in places where deaths are accurately registered, the annual mortality is at least one in forty, the number of deaths must be about 32,000,000 every year, which gives 87,761 per day, 3653 per hour, and 61 per minute; that is, every second a human being is extinguished, and every second a new human life is created. Every soul of this vast population needs the Gospel as much as we need it.

China.—The following statistics, relating to the internal condition of China, are taken from the statistical chart of a new work by Mr. R. Montgomery Martin, late her Majesty's Treasurer for the colonial, consular, and diplomatic services in China, and member of the Legislative Council at Hong Kong, entitled "China, Political, Commercial, and Social." In China proper it appears that there are 367,000,000 inhabitants in the dependencies of Manchuria, Mongolia, Turkistan, Tibet, &c., about 400,000,000, making a total of 400,500,000 of people under one government. The population on each square mile is 288, and the area in square miles is 1,297,999. The quantity of land is estimated at 830,620,100 English acres, of which 141,110,743 is under cultivation. The table from which the above statistics are taken is prepared from various authorities, the greater portion having been furnished in China, and translated from the official records.

Rev. Chauncey Goodrich and wife have joined Mr. Bidgett, of the American Board, at Peking. How little our churches are thrilled by the great fact that the standard of the Cross is unfurled in the capital of the Chinese empire, and may be carried into its interior! Dr. S. Wells Williams, secretary of the American Legation, writes to the Missionary House, urging the establishment of a new mission at Kinkiang on the Great River, the capital of a province containing a population of twenty millions, amongst whom there is now not one messenger of the Gospel. He also pleads for an enlargement of other missions of the Board in China.

India.—A leading newspaper, *The Friend of India*, in a recent issue declares: "The former state of things is crumbling away like a piece of rotten wood. Future missionaries will find the people ready and prepared to hear the Gospel, and will be enabled to battle against prejudice and obstinate bigotry. The progress of missions has been on the whole, rapid and wonderful when the character of the people is taken into consideration."

A female slave in Travancore, at a public examination of candidates for baptism, in reply to the question what is meant by the word "Thy kingdom come," when the silence of others made it turn to speak, modestly said, "We therein pray that grace may reign in every heart." The most learned divines could not have answered the question better.

Mr. Washburn, of the Madura mission, reports an itinerating tour, with Mr. Kent and native helpers, during which one hundred and sixty-four villages were visited, and nearly nine thousand people addressed. He was particularly pleased with the skill manifested by the helpers in addressing large and turbulent crowds, in the village streets, and in the open air, and that the Americans would evince more skill, either in managing an audience or exhibiting religious truth. The influence of the American is referred to as having much increased business and intellectual activity.

The death of Mr. Ballantine, recently announced, gives an unexpected force to the appeal sent by the Madras Committee to their brethren. Let no reader of the *January Missionary Herald* overlook that affecting document.

Turkey.—Two other Turkish converts have followed Selim Effendi (Rev. Edward Williams) into the invisible world. One, Rev. Mahmud Effendi, was formerly a major in the army, and had died a ordained minister of the Church of England. During his illness he converted freely, and at great length, with his prayer and his own hands, and made the impression upon all that he was a sincere believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.

The other, named Abdi, was formerly an Imam (Mohammedan priest), and was an old man when he was baptized by Rev. Dr. Schaeffer five years ago. He was imprisoned for his religious opinions, and was banished, first to Aidin, and then to Smyrna. A short time since he returned to Constantinople, and died suddenly in his house, while being in a Turkish quarter, and his family being Mussulmans, the circumstances of his death, and his dying experience as a Christian, were manifest. The doctrine put forth was substantially sustained by a report of Gen. Grant, the result of his recent hasty visit into the Carolinas, and also by a very lengthy and careful one by Gen. Carl Schurz. Hereupon quite an interesting debate took place. Mr. Sherman opposing the reading of the Schurz report as unparliamentary, while Mr. Sumner urged it by way of offset to the rose-colored tone of the message. Messrs. Doolittle of Ohio, and Dixon of Connecticut, followed, sharply criticizing the language of Mr. Sumner, and forcing him to explain that he meant no reflection upon the truth or principles of the rebellion. This is well, as honorable Senators cannot be too careful about falling into habits prevalent half a dozen years back. Mr. Stevens of Pa., made a speech on Monday, in which for the first time some opposition to the course of the administration was manifested. The doctrine put forth was that "the late war between two acknowledged belligerents, severed their original compact, and broke all ties which bound them together." This ground being taken, that the rebel States carried themselves out of the Union, Mr. Stevens draws the evident conclusion that they can come back only as new States or as territories, the latter, in his estimation, being their proper condition. The President's theory, as given in his message, he stated to be "impracticable," and expressed his belief that it was considered tenable by very few. On a subsequent day he gravely moved that the House accept and refer the credentials of a delegate from the "territory of Louisiana," on his motion also the House has passed a resolution asking information about land once seized under the confiscation act, parcelled out to the freedmen, and again given up to the rebel owners, and by whose authority this was done. Representative Ashley of Ohio has also introduced a bill for the construction of the Southern States de novo, with a new batch of provisional governors. As Southern members apply for admission to either House their cases and their credentials are referred to the joint committee, and the holiday recess may be a favorable season for some such measure, and perhaps a nearer accord with the President's plan. After the proclamation announcing the adoption of

the amendment, in part by the action of the lately rebel States, they cannot be returned to the condition of territories. The clerk of the House has so far received the certificates from 26 Southern members; 7 from North Carolina, 4 from Louisiana, 2 from Mississippi, 7 from Tennessee, 6 from Virginia, and 1 from Arkansas. Some of these have already been referred to the joint committee. The House has passed a resolution making the test oath of binding effect in all departments, and ordering that in no instance shall it be dispensed with. The Secretary of the Treasury, in answer to a resolution of inquiry, says that he appointed treasury agents in the South who could not take the oath, because he thought it was preferable to sending northern men to act as treasury agents, and also because he expected the oath would be modified on the meeting of Congress. The more important measures already introduced into either branch, or which the committee have decided upon to be introduced, are: a bill to amend the Constitution as to prohibit any assumption in future of the rebel debt; which was forced through the House by the previous question, on Tuesday; a bill for a bankrupt law, long delayed; and a plan for a national system of education; and a bill providing for free postal and commercial relations between the States, a blow at the Comd' and Amboy railroad monopoly in New Jersey. The bill has already passed the House, but is considered doubtful in the Senate.

Representative Raymond of this city made his first speech in Congress just previous to the adjournment. It was in reply to Mr. Stevens, and in support of the position now being acted upon by the Government. He maintains that the rebel States have never, for one moment, by any ordinance of Secession, or by any successful war carried themselves beyond the rightful jurisdiction of the United States.

Commercial and Monetary.

TUESDAY, Dec. 26, 1865. THE BANK STATEMENT shows an increase in loans of \$767,673; in circulation, 901,400; in legal tenders, \$5,003,961; in deposits, \$2,108,117. The specie has declined \$226,308.

THE COURSE OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE FOR THE WEEK. American Gold Com. 145 1/4 @ 145 3/4; U. S. 6 per cent, 20 years, 103 1/2 @ 103 3/4; U. S. 6 per cent, 10-40 years, 91 1/2 @ 91 3/4; New York Central, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Erie, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Rock Island, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Michigan Southern, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Illinois Central, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Hudson River, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Cleveland and Pittsburgh, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Fort Wayne and Chicago, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Chicago and North-western, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Alton and Peoria, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Marquette, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Rock Island, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Reading, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; New York and Erie, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Canton Land Co., 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4; Ohio and Mississippi, 107 1/2 @ 107 3/4.

A Veteran Missionary.—The Church Missionary Society have received intelligence of the decease of Archdeacon Croker, missionary at the Rapids, Red River Settlement. He had labored in that inclement climate for forty years, without once returning to England. He had proposed retiring to Canada, but found that he could not rest away from the scene of his early labors, and so returned to his post. He was buried October 6, 1865, the very day of the month which, forty years before, he reached the settlement.

Current Events.

Since the opening of the present session of Congress most of the news of the week have come from Washington, and now that Congress has voted itself a holiday—on Thursday of last week to Friday, Jan. 5th—the probability is that the public attention will be directed from the capital to the scenes peculiar to the season. The brief session has been a very busy one, and although little business has been perfected, it was sufficient to organize the committees and to get into their hands the useful and practical as well as the impractical matters with which the first days of Congress always deal. It is also to be noted that the members of the important subject of reconstruction. Thus in answer to the Senate's resolution of inquiry the President sent in a message on Tuesday, giving his views of the South. He says among other things that in nearly all of the Southern States "members have been seen to be, or are now pretending to be, ready to receive the old laws which are essential to their comfort, protection, and security. In Florida and Texas, the people are making commendable progress in restoring their State governments, and no doubt is entertained that they will, at an early period, be in a condition to re-adopt their original constitutions, and to re-adopt the Federal Government." The other late rebellious States, with the exception of Mississippi, from which no official information has been received, have adopted the no-Slave constitutional amendment. Perplexing questions were naturally to be expected from the great and sudden changes in the relations between two races, but the President thinks a better state of things is to be worked out through instrumentalities now in motion, and which will also merge sectional as well as national.

This message was at once characterized by Senator Sumner as a "whitewashing report," and by Mr. Schurz as a "report of a man who had substantially sustained by a report of Gen. Grant, the result of his recent hasty visit into the Carolinas, and also by a very lengthy and careful one by Gen. Carl Schurz. Hereupon quite an interesting debate took place. Mr. Sherman opposing the reading of the Schurz report as unparliamentary, while Mr. Sumner urged it by way of offset to the rose-colored tone of the message. Messrs. Doolittle of Ohio, and Dixon of Connecticut, followed, sharply criticizing the language of Mr. Sumner, and forcing him to explain that he meant no reflection upon the truth or principles of the rebellion. This is well, as honorable Senators cannot be too careful about falling into habits prevalent half a dozen years back. Mr. Stevens of Pa., made a speech on Monday, in which for the first time some opposition to the course of the administration was manifested. The doctrine put forth was that "the late war between two acknowledged belligerents, severed their original compact, and broke all ties which bound them together." This ground being taken, that the rebel States carried themselves out of the Union, Mr. Stevens draws the evident conclusion that they can come back only as new States or as territories, the latter, in his estimation, being their proper condition. The President's theory, as given in his message, he stated to be "impracticable," and expressed his belief that it was considered tenable by very few. On a subsequent day he gravely moved that the House accept and refer the credentials of a delegate from the "territory of Louisiana," on his motion also the House has passed a resolution asking information about land once seized under the confiscation act, parcelled out to the freedmen, and again given up to the rebel owners, and by whose authority this was done. Representative Ashley of Ohio has also introduced a bill for the construction of the Southern States de novo, with a new batch of provisional governors. As Southern members apply for admission to either House their cases and their credentials are referred to the joint committee, and the holiday recess may be a favorable season for some such measure, and perhaps a nearer accord with the President's plan. After the proclamation announcing the adoption of

New York Produce Market.

TUESDAY, Dec. 26, 1865. FLOUR—Are unchanged; selling at \$9.00 50 for Ates, and 11 25 1/2 for Pearls. BUTTER—Is not materially changed; western is selling at 25 3/4; State 26 1/4. CHEESE—Is firm and without change, and choice may be quoted at 17 1/2; fair to good at 15 1/2. CORN—Sales are slow, as holders are firm; middlings may be quoted at 5 1/2. DRY BEANS—Are lower for all kinds. Apples are selling at 10 1/2; blackberries at 30 1/2; raspberries at 25 1/2; cherries, pitted, at 48 1/2; do. pits in, at 50 1/2. EGGS—Are a little firmer, and the demand is good, selling at 42 1/2. FLOUR AND MEAL—There is inactivity noted, yet rates are firm. Superior State is worth \$7.15 50; do. extra at 8.10 50; western extra at 8.15 50; extra Ohio at 8.60 50; extra St. Louis at 11.75 50; rye flour and corn meal are without change. GRAIN—Wheat is firm at \$1.75 80 for Milwaukee club; choice white Michigan at 2.40 42; amber State at 2.42 45; rye and barley are dull and unchanged; oats are selling at 40c 60; corn at 96 1/2 for western mixed. HOPS—Crops of '64 are worth 10 1/2; crop of '65 from 20 1/2 to 30. PENNSYLVANIA—Is easier, selling at 40 1/2 for crude. POULTRY—Is lower to-day and the market overstocked; turkeys, dressed, are worth 20 1/2; chickens 17 1/2; geese 18 1/2; ducks 20 1/2. PROVISIONS—Pork is quiet and steady, selling at \$28.12 25 for mess, and 24.00 25 for prime do; beef is dull and but little is doing; plain mess is worth 11 00 1/2; extra do at 14 00 1/2; best beef at 18 1/2; do. shoulders at 11 1/2; lard at 16 1/2. TOBACCO—Is without change, and we do not change our quotations. Wool—is dull, and unless for the finer grades there is no change.

Wholesale Prices Current.

CAREFULLY COLLECTED FOR THE EVANGELIST. Goods stored in Bond to be sold at Public Auction in the end of three years. Unclaimed Goods sold at the end of six years. Duties payable in cash. The products of the South and North American Provinces, Free. The total in all cases is 2 1/2 per cent.

ASHES—Duty: 15 ct. ad val. (See Produce Market)	BRONZE—Duty: 20 ct. ad val.	COPPER—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	IRON—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.
COAL—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	COGNAC—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	CORNFLOUR—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	COTTON—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.
CRUDE OIL—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	DRUGS—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	FLOUR—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	GOLD—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.
HOPS—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	INDIGO—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	LARD—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	LEAD—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.
MEAL—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	MEATS—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	PEPPER—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	RAISINS—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.
RICE—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	SUGAR—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	TEA—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	TURKEYS—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.
WHEAT—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	WINE—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	YORK—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.	ZINC—Duty: 15 ct. ad val.